

Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Friday - 20 February 1953

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✓ 1. Conferred with Mr. Reber, AD/OIC, and Commander Cragg of ONI regarding a proposed reply from the Navy to a request by Sen. Tobey, Chairman of the Interstate & Foreign Commerce Committee, for assistance in the Committee's investigation of trade with Iron Curtain countries. We suggested that in their reply the Navy omit any references to the intelligence community and that such inquiries be forwarded to EDAC. I also discussed the matter with Adm. Houser, Legislative Liaison Officer of the Department of Defense, which has also received a similar letter, to make certain that these letters take the same line and do not involve CIA.

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✓ 2. [REDACTED], of DDP/PP, informed me that Gen. Stoner, of the Voice of America, is alleged to have informed a special consultant committee of Congressman Taber that one of the reasons for the expense of VOA is the necessity of competing with the plush organizations of Radio Free Europe and the Voice for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. Gen. Stoner is alleged to have suggested to this advisory group that all three units might well be combined at great saving. He also discussed with me a letter to Mr. Dodge, Director of the Bureau of the Budget, from Congressman Taber, dated 29 January 1953, which states "Then, we have the Voice of Freedom, which collects some money, but you probably know how its major expense is met." Mr. Taber has sent a copy of this letter to Cong. Clevenger, Chairman of the State Department Appropriation Subcommittee. I discussed this matter with DD/P and DCI, who will take appropriate steps, including a probable meeting between DCI and Mr. Taber as soon as the DCI is confirmed.

✓ 3. DD/P has briefed me on his recent conversation with Congressman Kersten on the subject of the use of refugee units in the armed services overseas.